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Food and Nutrition

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Details of Food Stamp Program Changes

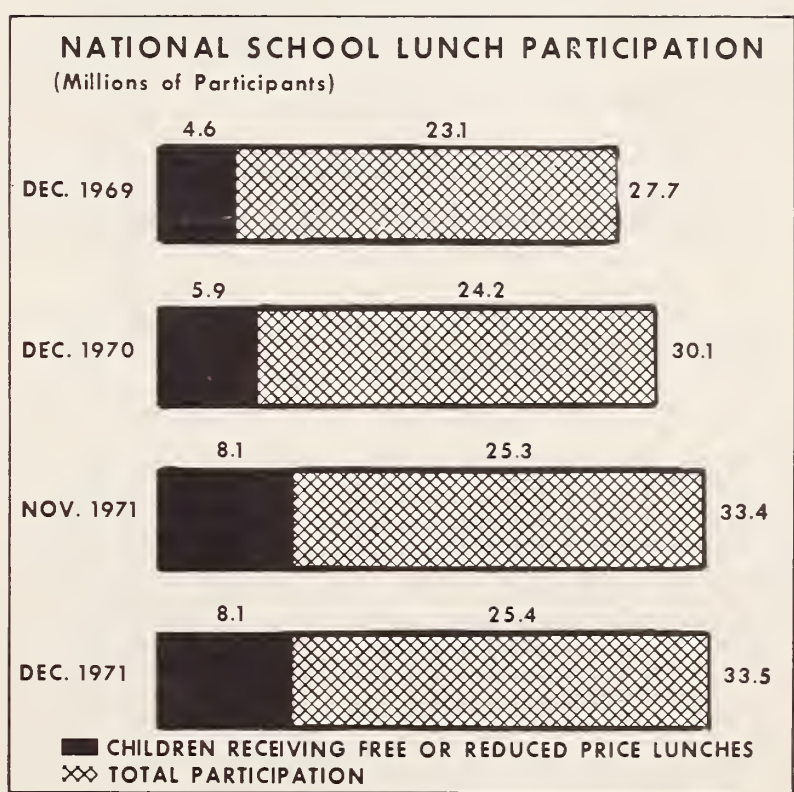
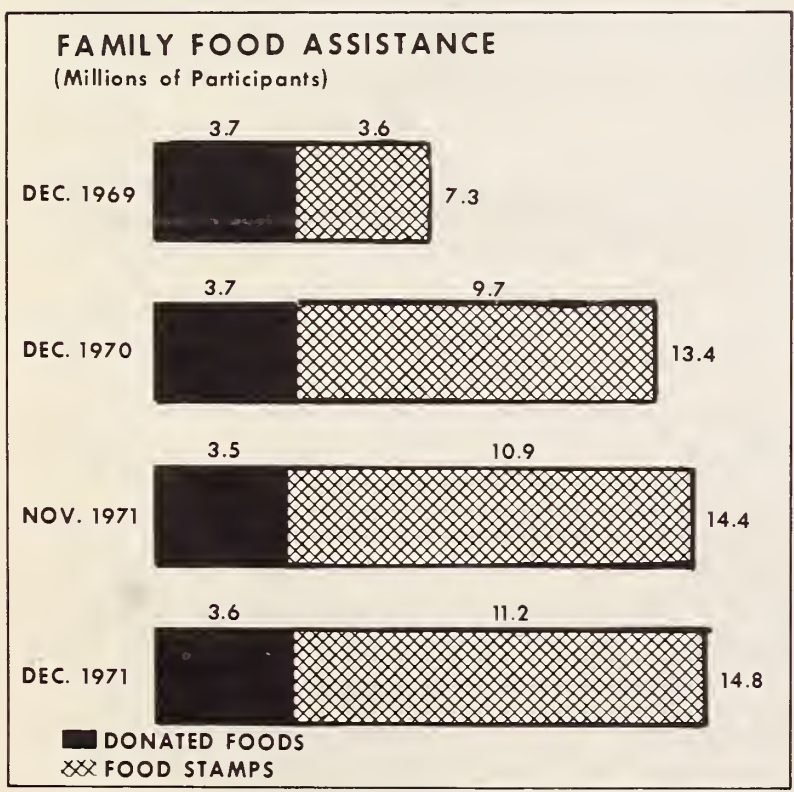
ON JANUARY 16, Secretary Butz announced changes in the food stamp regulations currently going into effect nationwide.

The amended regulations modify the maximum income eligibility standards in those States with income standards higher than the uniform national standards established on July 29, 1971. The 12 States and their standards are shown in the box at right.

The new changes also revise the basis-of-issuance table, so that no eligible household will receive less bonus coupons than it received prior to July 29, 1971. The revised table of coupon

MONTHLY MAXIMUM INCOME ELIGIBILITY LEVELS				
NATIONAL & STATES	PERSONS			
	1	2	3	4
NATIONAL	\$170	\$222	\$293	\$360
California	185	240	300	
Rhode Island	180	240		
South Dakota	175	225		
Vermont	185	235		
Washington	195	250	315	
Wisconsin	210	255		
Massachusetts	175	225		
Michigan	210	250		
Minnesota	180	245	305	
Nebraska		225		
New Jersey	180	240	300	
New York	185	245	305	370

allotments and purchase requirements for the 48 States and the District of Columbia is shown on page 4.



Special Food Service Program Regulations Changed

ON FEBRUARY 14, USDA announced proposed changes in regulations governing the Special Food Service Program for Children. This will assist States in planning the financing of food services for summer recreational programs and year-round child care centers.

Principal regulation changes proposed are:

- Service institutions desiring to participate in the special summer program must make written application to the State educational agency or appropriate FNS Regional Office by April 1 of the year for which program approval is sought.

- A service institution may contract with a food service management company or other commercial enterprise for the preparation or delivery of complete meals, or components of such meals, for service to children. The service institution must use a competitive bid procedure in the selection of this food service management company or commercial concern if it operates a program serving 500 or more children daily.

- For a service institution where all or nearly all the attending children are in need of free meals and the service institution is financially unable to meet this need, financial assistance in lieu of reimbursement for meals is authorized in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of the operating costs of the program, or the total cash expenditure for the program, whichever is the lesser, provided that such assistance shall not exceed 50 cents for a lunch or supper, 20 cents for a breakfast, and 15 cents for supplemental food.

- Requirements are set forth for

"in-kind contributions" for especially needy service institutions approved for financial assistance in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of the operating costs of the program.

The proposed regulations were published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, February 16, 1972. Comments, suggestions, or objections are invited and may be delivered or mailed within 20 days after publication in the Federal Register to Herbert D. Rorex, Director, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Communications should identify the regulations, section, and paragraph on which comments are offered.

USDA APPROVES APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND NONFOOD ASSISTANCE

ON FEBRUARY 15, USDA took action to approve pending applications for the School Breakfast and Nonfood Assistance Programs and sent the Congress a requested report on the funding status of these two child nutrition programs.

The report, requested by the Congress in Public Law 92-153, was made on the basis of a Department survey of all the States.

With the submission of the report, FNS authorized its cooperating State agencies to approve the total of 1,170 applications that the survey reported pending in 20 States. Those States are:

American Samoa	New Jersey
Arizona	New York
California	North Carolina
Colorado	Ohio
Georgia	Oklahoma
Guam	Pennsylvania
Illinois	South Dakota
Kansas	Texas
Louisiana	Washington
Maryland	West Virginia

FNS also authorized the cooperating State agencies to approve the total of 322 pending applications for equipment assistance from needy schools without a food service program. These nine States, also noted in the reports, are:

Arizona	Minnesota	South Dakota
Kansas	North Dakota	Texas
Maine	Ohio	Vermont

Copies of the complete report, "Report to Congress Pursuant to Public Law 92-153 on Funding Status of the School Breakfast and Nonfood Assistance Programs," are available on request.

The School Breakfast Program helps provide breakfast at school, with a priority for children from low-income neighborhoods or who travel long distances to school. The Nonfood Assistance Program assists needy schools in acquiring the necessary equipment to start or improve food service.

Both are administered nationally by FNS in cooperation with State agencies.

Amendment Proposed For 'Dual Operation'

ON FEBRUARY 17, USDA invited public comment on a proposed amendment to the food stamp program regulations which sets forth procedures and guidelines for simultaneous operation of the food stamp and food distribution programs.

These proposed regulations would apply to "dual operation" of the two programs, such as the one begun in the Seattle area of Washington in December.

Approval for dual operation will be based on a determination by the Secretary of Agriculture that conditions in the area requesting it are such that both programs are needed to provide effective food assistance to low-income

households in the area, and that State and local administration of the programs will meet that need.

The proposed amendment appeared in the Federal Register on Thursday, February 17. Comments on the proposed amendment are invited and may be mailed or delivered to James H. Kocher, Acting Director, Food Stamp Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, so as to be received by close of business Friday, March 17. Comments received will be open to public inspection.

Upon final publication of the amendment, the Food and Nutrition Service will publish a counterpart amendment to the Food Distribution Program Regulations.

47 Counties Designated For Food Stamp Program

FORTY-SEVEN COUNTIES in 12 States were designated on February 18 for the food stamp program by Edward J. Hekman, FNS Administrator.

The 12 States are:

Georgia	Minnesota	Oregon
Idaho	Mississippi	Pennsylvania
Kansas	Missouri	Texas
Kentucky	North Carolina	Wisconsin

All of these 47 counties currently are operating a USDA food distribution program.

Implementation of the food stamp program in these newly designated areas is contingent on the States submitting an acceptable plan of operation under the food stamp program regulations which were announced in July of last year and revised last month.

Food Stamp Basis of Issuance Table Revised

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS - 48 STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA								
For a Household of: Food Stamp Allotment	1 \$32	2 \$60	3 \$88	4 \$108	5 \$128	6 \$148	7 \$164	8 \$180
Purchase Requirement (Net Monthly Income)								
\$ 0 - 19.99	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
20 - 29.99	1	1	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
30 - 39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
40 - 49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
50 - 59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
60 - 69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
70 - 79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
80 - 89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
90 - 99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
100 - 109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
110 - 119.99	20	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
120 - 129.99	22	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
130 - 139.99	22	31	33	34	36	37	38	39
140 - 149.99	22	34	36	37	39	40	41	42
150 - 169.99	22	36	40	41	42	43	44	45
170 - 189.99	22	40	46	47	48	49	50	51
190 - 209.99		40	46	53	54	55	56	57
210 - 229.99		40	58	59	60	61	62	63
230 - 249.99			64	65	66	67	68	69
250 - 269.99			70	71	72	73	74	75
270 - 289.99			70	74	78	79	80	81
290 - 309.99			70	78	84	85	86	87
310 - 329.99				82	86	91	92	93
330 - 359.99				82	90	96	98	99
360 - 389.99				84	94	100	106	106
390 - 419.99					98	104	110	110
420 - 449.99					100	108	114	114
450 - 479.99						112	118	118
480 - 509.99						116	122	122
510 - 539.99							126	126
540 - 569.99							128	130
570 - 599.99								134
600 - 629.99								138
630 - 659.99								140

Nurses Give Food Stamp Info

THE VISITING NURSES Association of Camden, N.J., is helping to inform needy families of the benefits of the food stamp program.

Fifteen nurses provide nutrition education to individuals and families in their homes. They inform families of the existence of the food stamp program and explain procedures for obtaining the stamps. They also reach mothers-to-be at prenatal clinics.

Newspaper Prints Lunch Menus

THE OMAHA WORLD HERALD now publishes in its Sunday edition the complete city elementary and high school lunch menus for the coming week. A record 35,000 lunches are now being served daily in the city; the weekly menu guide enables local mothers to plan different dishes for the evening.

Puerto Ricans To Eat More Native Foods

NEEDY FAMILIES AND schoolchildren in Puerto Rico may soon be eating more native foods as a result of an all-day meeting in San Juan. At the San Geronimo Hotel recently, officials from USDA and the Small Business Administration encouraged Puerto Rican vendors to bid on government contracts for food used in the National School Lunch and Food Distribution Programs.

The officials pointed out that Puerto Rican purchases provide foods the islanders are accustomed to, save on transportation costs, and help to develop the local economy. Before the meeting, the officials noted that only a fraction of the food distributed in Puerto Rico each year is purchased locally. In fiscal '71, for example, Puerto Rican vendors supplied less than

1 percent of the 160 million pounds of food distributed on the island. Federal officials hope to boost that percentage by buying requirements.

MEETINGS OF NOTE

A WORKSHOP ON FEEDING programs for the elderly will be held on Feb. 29 in St. Louis, Mo., at the Busch Memorial Center, St. Louis University.

The workshop will focus on setting up Meals on Wheels programs and will feature speakers who are successfully operating projects in various States. Other feeding concepts to be considered include neighborhood centers that provide meals at reasonable prices.

Items for MEETINGS OF NOTE should be sent to the Editor, "Food and Nutrition Newsletter."

OFF PRESS

- Two handbooks on the operation of the Special Food Service Program for Children have just been issued to help sponsors and supervisors run efficient food service programs in summer child recreation activities in needy areas.

The Special Food Service Program for Children provides lunches for children and youths under 21 years old in low-income neighborhoods in the summer when schools are not in session. FNS provides cash reimbursement and donated foods for these programs.

One of the booklets offers guidance to sponsors of summer programs. It is intended for use as a tool in plans and operation. The other handbook is directed to the supervisors of the food service sites.

Organizations planning to sponsor summer feeding programs should submit applications to their State educational agency

or to their FNS Regional Office before April 1.

For copies of the handbooks, write to appropriate State agencies, FNS Regional Offices, or to the Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

- A two-color leaflet on the Food Distribution Division's new "Drive to Serve" program and what it means to food recipients is now available. The leaflet explains that recipients 65 or over--who suffer from poor health or lack transportation--can have their foods home-delivered by student volunteers. The leaflet advises recipients who can't get their foods home to call the welfare office. For a copy of "DRIVE TO SERVE--A Public Service for Senior Citizens," write the Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

- The Food and Nutrition Service has prepared orientation kits on the recent changes in school lunch regulations for FNS Regional Offices to use and distribute to State school lunch directors. The reel-to-reel and cassette taped presentation, narrated by Assistant Deputy Administrator Isabelle Kelley, explains in detail the substantial changes in regulations. In addition to the tapes, the kits contain slides or viewgraph transparencies, a printed transcript of the tape, and the regulations and law.

- A four-color flip chart booklet is the latest addition to the outreach materials of the food stamp program. "Food Stamps for You" (FNS-67) illustrates and explains in simple language the main steps potential food stamp users must follow in order to take part in this food help program. It is intended as a visual aid for use when outreach workers visit the home of low-income persons or discuss the program

with small groups.

- A new slide set and filmstrip, "Lucy: A Story of Progress," tells of one of the thousands of nutrition aides working for USDA's Extension Service in the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. These aides teach others in their community how to improve their families' diets. "Lucy: A Story of Progress," C-182, is available for \$15.50 from Photography Division, Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. The filmstrip is available for \$8.50 from Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20011.

- FNS administers a program of nutritional training, studies, and developmental projects designed to improve and expand the nutritional benefits of the child nutrition programs. The funding for these projects falls into two areas:

- Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act, as amended, authorizes the use of up to one percent of the funds available for all child nutrition programs (with the exception of the Special Milk Programs) for: nutritional training and education of workers, cooperators, and participants in these programs; and surveys and studies of requirements for food service programs.

- Section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act, as amended, authorizes any State to reserve up to one percent of the funds initially apportioned to it, under both the National School Lunch Act and Child Nutrition Act, for special developmental projects.

A new brochure, "Guidelines for Nutritional Training, Studies, and Developmental Projects," tells who may apply for these funds, and when and how to apply. For copies, write: Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

